5 PARC NOTES January 31, 1998



AWARDS:

ON-THE-SPOT AWARD (DESERT STORM PROCUREMENT), 1991; EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE AWARDS, 1984-1990, 1994-1995; OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMAN IN AMERICA, 1975; MAGNA CUM LAUDE GRADUATE, 1965; HS VALEDICTORIAN, 1962

LEVEL III ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS: CONTRACTING, PROGRAM MANAGEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS-COMPUTER SYSTEMS

PARC Philosophy/PARC Goals

On 9 June 1997, I was sworn in as the Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC). I am indeed grateful for the opportunity to serve our nation as a member of the Corps of Engineers in this capacity. My goal is simply to ensure best procurement and contracting practices are followed that support the attainment of the vision laid out by the Chief of Engineers. My philosophy, equally simple, is to facilitate the best value delivery of goods and services to customers, while maintaining the public trust in the integrity of the acquisition system.

While my responsibilities include the professional development of all contracting personnel in the Corps as well as oversight of the contracting function, I want to stress that this is a team effort. The PARC Office exists solely for the purpose of providing support to the Commanders in the field. In providing that support I shall rely totally upon unfiltered information forwarded for review and approval and your unambiguous request for assistance and guidance. I ask for your trust and confidence in my commitment to finding answers to questions and supportable solutions to problems. I have no interest and will not tolerate in the PARC Office a we/they syndrome. I shall pursue a totally integrated approach to assure that the best possible decisions are made at every echelon in the conduct of the Corps' procurement and contracting business.

I believe firmly in the empowerment of our contracting personnel to make decisions and accomplish the mission at the lowest possible level within the scope of their responsibility and authority. This demands that I focus on their education, training and professional development and make this one of my highest priorities. My quest is to create and sustain a world-class contracting workforce in the Corps that is second to none in the Federal Government.

6 PARC NOTES January 31, 1998

I ask that you join with me, as together we forge an acquisition team that always seeks defensible actions which result in best value products and services that support the mission of the Corps.

I look forward to working with each you. I am interested in you and your challenges and how we can help remove every barrier to effective operations. My greatest thrust are on setting the Corps A-F-I-R-E with new concepts of adaptiveness, flexibility, innovativeness, responsiveness and efficiencies/effectiveness; establishing a new concept of Full Service Contracting Staff; creating critical and entrepreneurial thinking and greatly technical savvy among preaward and postaward Contracting personnel; instituting Corps specific roadshows institutionalizing Contracting Officer-led integrated teams; creating a new spirit of partnering with industry; Co-Managing CP-14 and CP-18 careers with employees; and ensuring that every procurement action can withstand any magnification of the microscope from any stakeholders, regardless of the time horizon.